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friends of virtue. The censure of the bad, depreciating merit which they will not imitate, is as honourable as the praise of the good. Let his enemies imitate his virtues before they can expect to have their censures of him believed. He reflects an honourable lustre on the cause of civil and religious liberty, which he so honestly advocates.*

K.

* REDUCTION OF RENTS.

At a Meeting of the Tenantry who have lately taken Leases at advanced rents, from ARCHIBALD HAMILTON ROWAN, Esq. of Killileagh Castle in the County of Down, held at Killileagh, on Monday, the 24th day of October, 1814,

Resolved, That our best thanks are due, and are hereby given, to ARCHIBALD HAMILTON ROWAN, Esq. not so much for his unsolicited reduction of our rents, as for that patriotic liberality which induced him to meet and share the distress of the day with his tenantry. We remember, with gratitude, that even in better times, he never adopted the oppressive system of exacting discounts on his rents; and whilst we recal to our recollection the Hon. Justice FLETCHER's enlightened and liberal exposition of the means by which the internal peace and concord of the country may be preserved, we venerate the man who has thus reduced it to practice. To other landed proprietors we recommend both the advice and the example—"Go, ye, and do likewise!"

Signed by order,

JOHN CARR, Chairman.

CORRESPONDENCE ON SUBJECTS CONNECTED WITH THE RETROSPECT OF POLITICS.

To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.

GENTLEMEN,

IT was with great pleasure I read in your Magazine for last month, "An address delivered by Robert Grimshaw, as President of the Belfast Historic Society." If that society contain many such members as Mr. Grimshaw, I certainly think they "will not tamely submit to be insulted by little tyrants." That society may do a great deal of good if the members do not confine all their ideas of patriotism within the walls of their *room*. I have had the honour of being present at one of their meetings, and I thought the plan was useful; it acts as a stimulus to the members to read and understand the different questions upon which they were called to debate. I sincerely hope when they are discussing questions relative to the sacred cause of liberty in the days of Cato and Aristides, they will recollect that there are occasions in their own times which would require them to act as Cato, and to resist the rapid downfall of liberty, whether it may be occasioned by despotism and arbitrary power, or by the much quieter, though the not less certain means of *corruption*. Corruption destroys liberty at the very fountain head. Is it not astonishing that a nation should be so besotted as to pay money to corrupt themselves?

In another part of your valuable publication I perceive that this society "negatived a motion for an address of thanks to Robert Tennent, esq. as their honorary member." The very handsome allusion to that gentleman in the speech of Mr. Grimshaw makes it appear the more astonishing to me that they did negative such a motion. I am led to suppose there must have been some other reason for the Historic gentlemen having refused to thank Mr. Tennent than that which we, who are not behind the scenes, might suppose. I have always understood that the character of Mr. Tennent stood pre-eminent among his townsmen for private virtue and public honesty, and I am sorry to suppose that the gentlemen of that society could so exclusively admire patriotism of old, as not to have any admiration left for a patriotic exertion in modern times so near at home. They cannot be timid, for so far as I can judge, from being one night amongst them, they appear to have confidence *enough* in their

own abilities. Why then should they be timid? Only because they compromise too much with the slavish tendency of the times, and have not the firmness to act honestly, as their patriotic sentiments should dictate, if indeed they have any.

I am, gentlemen, whilst in your political sentiments you maintain the same unbending firmness, your sincere admirer,

Bangor, Oct. 8, 1814. C... G.....

To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.

ON THE LATE OPPOSITION TO THE ILLEGAL DEMAND FOR TOLLS AT THE LONG BRIDGE, BELFAST.

It has come into my head, that you have a fine opportunity of contrasting the Irish with the English. At the time when a great number of people were met on the long bridge with the intention of opposing the toll gatherers, and when some one shouted "throw the rascal over the bridge," an individual persuaded them to quietness, and to leave it to the law to settle the disputed matter. In every place quietness prevailed; indeed, I have never found an instance of any mob being so refractory, that a reasonable person, in whom they placed confidence, could not persuade them to quietness. I think Orangeism has got a great blow, for one of their great champions has lost much popularity on this occasion.* You can contrast this behaviour with the Ludites in England. You may also contrast the brutal, I should rather say infernal, behaviour of two boxing amateurs the other day in England, with the neglect a celebrated teacher of the royal art has experienced in Belfast. Although a boxing match might please Blucher and some of our nobility, I hope Alexander looked at it with disgust.

On the subject of resisting illegal tolls you may dwell particularly on the necessity of the people uniting themselves at all times with those whose interest is their interest, and whose conduct corresponds with their words. We ought to admire the acts not the man. T.

* To this conduct, the act of Archibald Hamilton Rowan lowering his rents, affords a fine contrast.

PRICES OF GRAIN, &c.

		s.	d.		s.	d.	
Lisburn, *October* 25, 1814	Oats,	5	0	to	6	0	per cwt. of 112 lbs.
	Oatmeal,	13	0	to	13	6	per cwt. of 120 lbs.
	Potatoes,					2½	per stone.
Liverpool, *October* 27, 1814.	Wheat, English,	11	3	to	11	9	per 70 lbs.
	——— Foreign,	10	6	to	11	0	per do.
	——— Irish,	8	6	to	9	3	per do.
	Barley, English,	5	6	to	6	0	per 60 lbs.
	—— Irish & Scotch,	4	0	to	5	6	per do.
	Oats, potatoe,	3	9	to	3	10	per 45 lbs.
	—— Limerick,	3	9	to	3	10	per do.
	— Com. Waterford,	3	6	to	3	7	per do.
	Oatmeal,	34	0	to	36	0	per 240 lbs.
Belfast, *October* 28, 1814.	Wheat,	11	0	to	11	6	per cwt. of 112 lbs.
	Oats,	7	0	to	7	6	per do.
	Barley,	7	0	to	8	6	per do.
	Oatmeal,	13	0	to	13	10	per do.
	Firkin Butter,	120	0	to	121	6	per do.
	Potatoes,	0	3	to	0	3¾	per stone.

Dublin, *October* 28, 1814.	Wheat,	20	0	to	40	0	mid. price, 32	9½ per 20 stone.
	Bere,	13	0	to	17	0	——— 15	2⅔ per 16 do.
	Barley,	14	0	to	20	6	——— 17	6 per do.
	Oats,	11	0	to	17	0	——— 13	6 per 14 stone.
	Oatmeal,	14	0	to	18	0	——— 14	11½ per cwt.